

An Advisory for Child Passenger Safety Technicians on Airbags and Passenger Sensing Systems

Here's an important reminder on the proper use of child safety seats in vehicles and the actions to take when a family has a critical reason to put a child in a front passenger seat.

Many vehicles on the road today are equipped with advanced air bag systems, and many of those vehicles also have air bag suppression systems. Even in vehicles with air bag suppression systems, children should be secured in a rear seat rather than in the front seat. Crash statistics show that children are safer when properly secured in a rear seating position.

If a family indicates that they must place a child in a front passenger seating position, please remind the family:

- Crash statistics show that children are safer if they are restrained in a rear seat rather than the front seat.
- Even in vehicles equipped with a Passenger Sensing System, we recommend that child restraints be secured in a rear seat.
- Always use the correct child restraint for the child's age and size
- Never put a rear facing child restraint in the front.

If a family still must install a forward facing child restraint in the front seat, instruct the family to read and follow the instructions that came with the child restraint and their vehicle owner's manual instructions for securing a child restraint in the right front passenger seat. This should also include the owner's manual instructions for what to do if the vehicle is equipped with a Passenger Sensing System and the air bag "on" indicator light is lit, after the child restraint has been installed:

- If a child restraint has been installed in the front passenger seat and the air bag "on" indicator light is lit, turn the vehicle off. Remove the child restraint from the vehicle and reinstall the child restraint.
- If, after reinstalling the child restraint and restarting the vehicle, the air bag "on" indicator light is still lit, check to make sure that the vehicle's seatback is not pressing the child restraint into the seat cushion. If this happens, slightly recline the vehicle's seatback and adjust the seat cushion if possible.
- Also make sure the child restraint is not trapped under the vehicle head restraint. If this happens, adjust the head restraint.
- Remove any additional material from the seat such as blankets, cushions, seat covers, seat heaters, or seat massagers before reinstalling or securing the child restraint.
- If the airbag "on" indicator is still lit, secure the child in the child restraint in a rear seat position in the vehicle and check with your dealer for assistance.

Thank you for helping families properly restrain their children in all vehicles.